BRITISH COLUMBIA HYDRO AND POWER AUTHORITY

REGISTERED TRAPLINE PROGRAM

RIGHTS OF WAY

IN CO-OPERATION WITH

Province of British Columbia

Ministry of Environment

BRITISH COLUMBIA TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION

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REGISTERED TRAPLINE PROGRAM

BRITISH COLUMBIA HYDRO AND POWER AUTHORITY

PROPERTIES DIVISION

Rights-of-Way

IN COOPERATION WITH

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT
FISH AND WILDLIFE BRANCH

BRITISH COLUMBIA
TRAPPERS
ASSOCIATION

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HR65

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INTRODUCTION

The objectives of the program are to provide a standard compensation policy that is fair and consistent to all registered trappers. The program compensates for harvest and trapline cabin losses caused by construction activities and provides incentives to improve the remaining portions of the registered trapline.

The program contains measures to compensate trappers on an individual basis for losses related to trapping as a livelihood or business venture. These measures constitute the full entitlement of the participant. The program should be considered separately and independently from any possible mitigation or compensation agreements made between B. C. Hydro and the B. C. Fish and Wildlife Branch for conceivable population or habitat loss to the furbearer resource resulting from Hydro's activities.

The program described here becomes effective once B. C. Hydro receives authorization to construct a project. Separate programs dealing with feasibility and preliminary design study and power generation projects are also available.

1. The Role of the Trapper

The trapper is the principal participant in this voluntary program. It is the trapper's responsibility to cooperate with B. C. Hydro and

the Inspection Committee to ensure the program properly addresses his circumstance. It is also the trapper's responsibility to actively and honestly participate in all phases of the program. Should a trapper choose to not participate on the program a settlement will be negotiated for construction related losses only.

2. The Role of B. C. Hydro

B. C. Hydro is responsible for the administration of the program. Specific duties include:

(a) Acquisition and processing of data for calculating compensation payments including:

(i) mapping, classifying and quantifying habitats;

(ii) calculating the number of animals displaced;

(iii) assessing the value of all destroyed cabins.

(b) Review, assess and inspect all improvements to the trapline being claimed under the Improvement Component in cooperation with the trapper and the Inspection Committee.

(c) Payment of all administrative expenses arising from the program.

(d) The administration of the program will be responsible for conducting investigations into any wrong doings by the trappers on the program. The results of the investigations will be forwarded to the Inspection Committee for their consideration.

3. The Role of the Inspection Committee

An Inspection Committee will be formed for each project and will include one representative each chosen by; the impacted trappers, the B. C. Fish and Wildlife Branch and B. C. Hydro. The representatives, if possible will be local to the impacted area. The functions of the Committee are to:

(a) Review and confirm all calculations and decisions made by B. C. Hydro concerning Compensation payments.

(b) If required, conduct with the trapper and B. C. Hydro an aerial and ground survey of the trapline to inventory losses on the portion impacted as well as inventory potential trapping areas not presently being used.

(c) Review all trapline improvement requests for their validity.

(d) Review information provided by the program administrator into any wrong doings by trappers on the program and remove from the

program anyone who knowingly misrepresents or falsifies any information or records for financial gain.

4. The Role of the Consulting Committee

A Consulting Committee composed of representatives of the B. C. Trappers Association, B. C. Fish and Wildlife Branch and B. C. Hydro has been established to oversee the administration of the program. Their duties are to:

(a) Provide the structure for monitoring the policies of the program.

(b) Consider proposals for changes, initiate investigations of the proposed changes, consider appeals by the trappers, and recommend remedial action to B. C. Hydro if necessary.

(c) Annually assess the program and recommend to B. C. Hydro required alterations.

(d) Review each case at the end of the five year program to ensure the intention of these proposals have been carried out.

5. Right-of-Way Construction

The program is designed to compensate the trapper for construction related disturbances and to provide financial assistance to make improvements to the unimpacted area of the trapline.

5.1 Compensation Component

Compensation will be paid for losses resulting from construction activities. It pays for one years loss of potential harvest and loss of presently used cabins on the trapline.

The trapper will receive a once only payment based on one years loss of potential harvest from the area of impact on the trapline and the B. C. average pelt value for the last complete trapping season.

Potential harvest of area of impact by species	x	B. C. average pelt value for last complete trapping season by species	=	Compensation for species

The loss of potential harvest is determined using the densities from Table 1 for all previously trapped species that occur within the area of impact. B. C. Hydro will calculate and the

Inspection Committee will confirm the quality of each habitat (poor, moderate and good).

The potential harvest is calculated by overlaying a density grid onto a map showing the area of habitat and the area of impact. The number of grid units (potential harvest) that overlay the habitat of that species within the area of impact is considered the potential harvest of that species lost due to construction activities.

Records of species previously trapped and the B. C. average pelt value will be obtained from the B. C. Fish and Wildlife Branch.

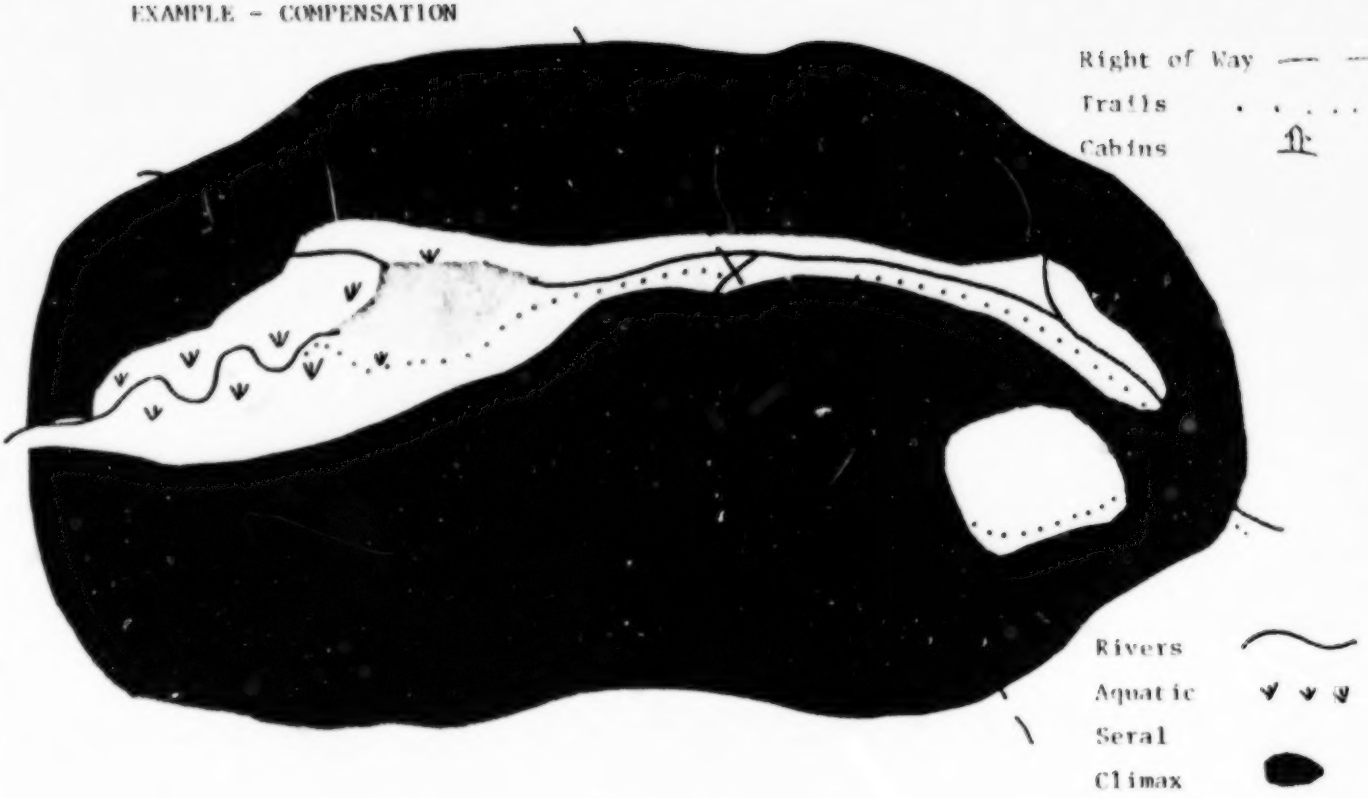
When a trapper has held tenure of a trapline for four years or more but has not trapped prior to B. C. Hydro applying for permission to construct the transmission line, the trapper will not be eligible for Compensation. The trapper will be eligible for the Improvement Component. Where a trapper has less than four years tenure, potentially harvestable species will be estimated by B. C. Hydro and confirmed by the Inspection Committee based on the types of habitat impacted. B. C. Hydro will provide to trappers and the Inspection Committee, topographic maps, aerial photographs or photo mosaics of each trapline.

If required the trapper, the Inspection Committee and B. C. Hydro will conduct an aerial and ground survey of the whole trapline. An aircraft appropriate to the area will be supplied for up to three hours upon approval from the Inspection Committee. An inventory of losses on the portion impacted will be made at this time as well as an inventory of potential trapping areas not presently being used.

The trapper will receive compensation for cabins presently used in the impacted area. The rate of payment will be $12.50 per square foot ($134.50 per square metre) for each cabin displaced by the right-of-way. Any residence registered under the Land Act (private property) that is displaced by the right-of-way will be compensated for under the land acquisition program.

EXAMPLE - COMPENSATION

Scale 1:100,000



Eg. - Marten - Habitat quality - good - 0.2/km² (Table 1) = 1 marten per 5 km²

number of grid units (potential harvest) overlaying area of right-of-way = 4.75 = 5

loss of potential harvest = 5 marten

B. C. average pelt value for marten = $32.00

5 x $32.00 = $160.00 (Compensation for marten)

This method of calculation will be used for each previously trapped species.

A cabin will also be lost because of the clearing
10' x 8' cabin = 80 sq. ft. @ $12.50/sq. ft. = $1,000.00

5.2 Trapline Improvement Component

A maximum of $5,000.00 will be available for improvements to the remaining unimpacted area of a trapline. The improvements include cutting trails, building caches, building permanent cubbies, building cabins, habitat improvements, (Part of Section XV of Canadian Trappers' Manual), purchasing transportation equipment and any other related improvements.

Money will be made available only based on proven need as determined by the Inspection Committee and will not automatically be available for every affected trapline.

The trapper must receive the approval of the Inspection Committee before any work is started or before any equipment purchased. Improvements will be inspected by B. C. Hydro prior to any payments. Labour payments will be made at a rate of $9.50 per hour.

Cabins built in excess of the number impacted by the right-of-way and paid for in the Compensation Component may be claimed. The trapper must prove need and obtain approval from the Inspection Committee before starting construction. The trapper must obtain a "License of Occupation" or equivalent from the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing before construction. An annual registration fee and taxes will be assessed by the Ministry.

The trapper must also obtain a permit from the Ministry of Forests if he intends to cut trees to build a log cabin. The completed cabin will be inspected by B. C. Hydro and paid for at $12.50 per square foot ($135.40 per square meter).

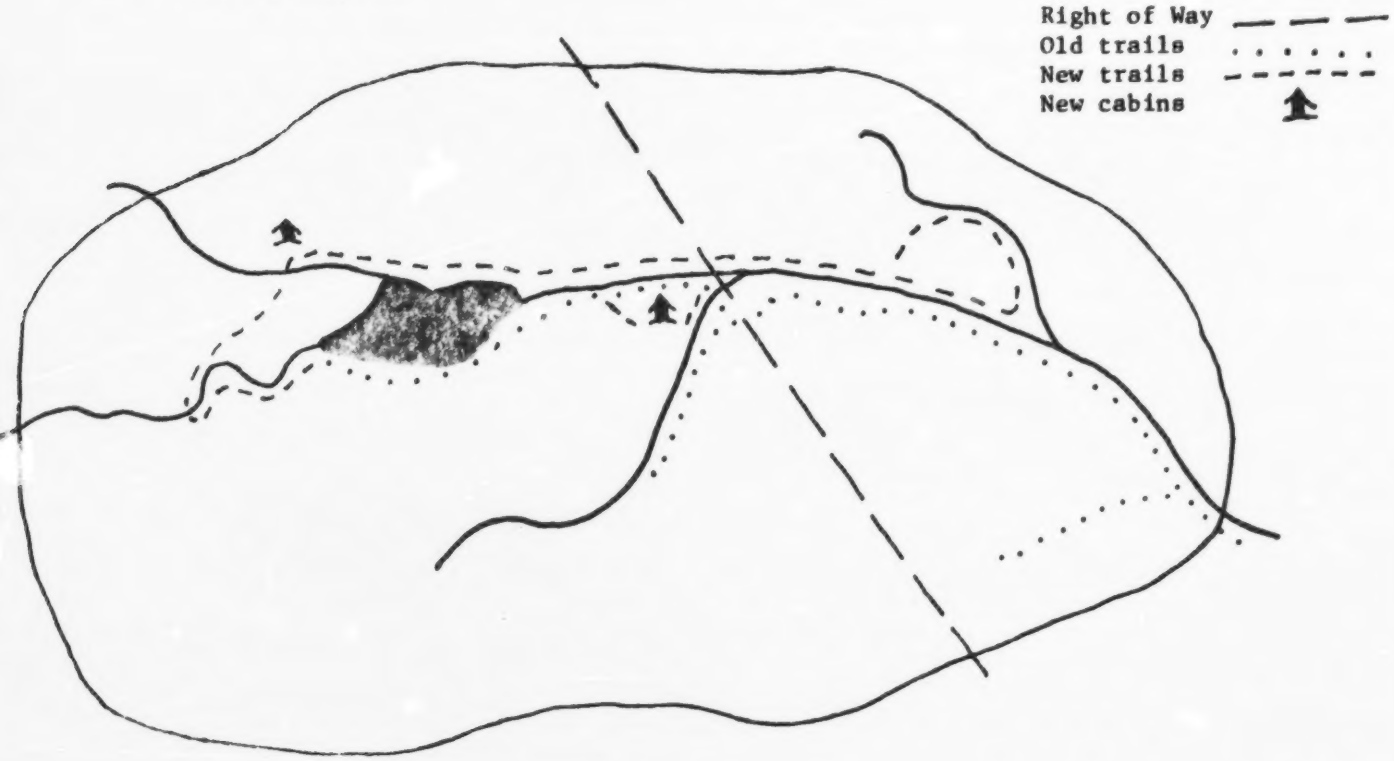
Up to one half of the trapline improvement monies ($2,500.00) may be used for the purchase of transportation equipment, including all terrain vehicles (excluding cars and trucks), boats, canoes, and/or motors. Only one of each will be allowed for each trapline after the trapper proves need to the Inspection Committee. B. C. Hydro will not be liable for any malfunctions, repairs or damages occurring to these items.

Equipment purchased through the program may not be sold for three years. Equipment may be traded only if the new equipment is for use on the trapline. Approval from B. C. Hydro must be received prior to any transactions.

All improvements must be complete and reimbursements claimed for within the five year duration of the program.

EXAMPLE - IMPROVEMENT (Maximum $5,000.00)

The trapper has received approval from the Inspection Committee and Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing to construct two new cabins and some trails into an area of his trapline that is presently inaccessable. With the purchase of a snowmobile the trapper can now better use his entire trapline.



Two Cabins - Since one cabin was lost and paid for due to the clearing, only one cabin can be claimed for payment under the Improvement part.

10' x 8' cabin = 80 sq. ft. @ $12.50/sq. ft. = $1,000.00

New Trails - 60 hrs. of labour @ $9.50/hr. = $ 570.00

One Twin Track Snowmobile Cost $4,800.00 - Hydro reimbursement maximum = $2,500.00

Total = $4,070.00

The trapper has five years to build and claim all improvements.

6. Multiple Impacts

When a generation project and a right-of-way occur on a trapline within the same time frame of a trapper being on this program, the trapper will be eligible for compensation and incentive payments for the total area of impact. The Improvement Component will be limited to the Power Generation Project allotment ($7,500.00).

Should two or more rights-of-way occur on a trapline within the same time frame of a trapper being on this program, the trapper will be entitled to compensation for the total impacts. The Inspection Committee will decide on the amount of money to be made available under the Improvement Component.

If a trapper has been on either the Power Generation Project or Right-of-Way program before he will be eligible to participate on the program again, however the Inspection Committee will decide if and the amount of money to be made available in the Improvement Component.

7. Impact Assessment

The furbearers have been segregated based on habitat use patterns. This segregation will allow more accurate assessment of the level of impact. At present three habitat types have been selected. The number of habitat types may in the future be changed to better specify the habitat use of each species.

Habitat	General Habitat	Species
Aquatic	Watercourses and wetland area	beaver, muskrat, mink and otter
Seral	Deciduous forests and riparian areas	weasel, fox, coyote wolf, bobcat, lynx, raccoon and skunk
Climax	Coniferous forest	squirrel, marten, fisher and wolverine

B. C. Hydro will calculate the habitat loss incurred by species in each habitat, utilizing maps, aerial photos and mosaics, aerial surveys and ground truthing. The Inspection Committee will confirm the figures.

8. Conditions of Participation

Participation in the program is voluntary. Each trapper participating in the program must agree to and accept the following conditions:

(a) Decisions made by the Consulting Committee and the Inspection Committee are binding on all parties.

(b) There is a five year time limit on the program.

(c) There are definite financial limits in the Improvement Component.

(d) The trapper will guarantee full and honest cooperation and participation.

(e) The trapper will grant B. C. Hydro permission to gain access to all pertinent records associated with the trapline and trapping activity.

(f) The trapper will permit and cooperate in the inspection of his trapline and the improvements for the duration of the program.

(g) Should the trapper intentionally misrepresent any information or defraud B. C. Hydro, the trapper will be removed from the program.

9. Transfer of Trapline Rights

In the event of the cessation of trapping by an active trapper compensation will be paid on the following basis:

(a) Where a discontinuance occurs during the period between signing on to the program and receiving the compensation, the trapper or his estate will receive a lump sum payment equivalent to the total Compensation as calculated under the Compensation Component. No Improvement payments will be made.

(b) Where a discontinuance occurs following the receipt of any payments a lump payment equivalent to the difference between the total Compensation as calculated under the Compensation Component and the Compensation already paid will be made. No additional Improvement payments will be paid to that already earned while on the program.

The program will be terminated if and when the original participant relinquishes tenancy of the trapline.

10. Community Traplines

Where a Community Trapline is affected B. C. Hydro will pay compensation to all active trappers. Payments will be based on the program. Proof of harvest must be substantiated with receipts except where the trapline has been held for less than four years whereby potential harvests will be determined using Table 1. The community must provide B. C. Hydro with a list of trappers eligible to receive compensation and the percentage that each is entitled to. No new trappers will be added to the original list submitted at the start of the program. Trapline improvement payments will be made only to those trappers named on the original list. The trappers will designate the percentage of payment each individual is to receive.

In the event of the cessation of trapping by any of the entitled trappers, compensation will be paid as outlined in Section 9. That percentage of compensation allocated to the trapper that ceased trapping will not be allocated to any other trapper, nor will the percentage be adjusted for the remaining trappers. The Improvement payment limits will remain the same.

REVIEW

The Consulting Committee will review each case at the end of the five year program to ensure that the intention of these proposals has been carried.

TABLE 1

REASONABLE HARVEST DENSITIES FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA FURBEARERS

SPECIES	HABITAT QUALITY		
	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
AQUATIC:			
Beaver	0.5 per lodge	0.75 per lodge	1.5 per lodge
Muskrat - Interior	0.5 per pushup	0.75 per pushup	1.5 per pushup
- Coastal	0.75 per pushup	1.5 per pushup	2.0 per pushup
Mink	0.12 per km of waterway (0.2 per mile)	0.38 per km of waterway (0.6 per mile)	0.65 per km of waterway (1.0 per mile)
Otter	0.05 per km of waterway (0.08 per mile)	0.10 per km of waterway (0.16 per mile)	0.15 per km of waterway (0.24 per mile)
SERAL:			
Weasel	0.02 per km² (0.05 per sq. mi.)	0.08 per km² (0.21 per sq. mi.)	0.15 per km² (0.39 per sq. mi.)
Fox	0.002 per km² (0.005 per sq. mi.)	0.04 per km² (0.10 per sq. mi.)	0.06 per km² (0.16 per sq. mi.)
Coyote	0.009 per km² (0.024 per sq. mi.)	0.03 per km² (0.08 per sq. mi.)	0.06 per km² (0.15 per sq. mi.)
Wolf	0.0005 per km² (0.001 per sq. mi.)	0.0025 per km² (0.006 per sq. mi.)	0.009 per km² (0.024 per sq. mi.)
Bobcat	0.0025 per km² (0.006 per sq. mi.)	0.0075 per km² (0.018 per sq. mi.)	0.025 per km² (0.06 per sq. mi.)
Lynx - High	0.008 per km² (0.02 per sq. mi.)	0.02 per km² 0.05 per sq. mi.)	0.05 per km² (0.13 per sq. mi.)
- Low	0.003 per km² (0.008 per sq. mi.)	0.009 per km² (0.024 per sq. mi.)	0.018 per km² (0.048 per sq. mi.)
Raccoon	0.03 per km² (0.08 per sq. mi.)	0.1 per km² (0.26 per sq. mi.)	0.2 per km² (0.5 per sq. mi.)
Skunk	0.0006 per km² (0.0016 per sq. mi.)	0.0015 per km² (0.0039 per sq. mi.)	0.003 per km² (0.0078 per sq. mi.)
CLIMAX:			
Red Squirrel	0.09 per km² (0.24 per sq. mi.)	0.75 per km² (1.9 per sq. mi.)	1.5 per km² (3.9 per sq. mi.)
Pine Marten	0.05 per km² (0.13 per sq. mi.)	0.1 per km² (0.26 per sq. mi.)	0.2 per km² (0.5 per sq. mi.)
Fisher	0.004 per km² (0.015 per sq. mi.)	0.015 per km² (0.04 per sq. mi.)	0.025 per km² (0.065 per sq. mi.)
Wolverine	0.0015 per km² (0.0039 per sq. mi.)	0.003 per km² (0.008 per sq. mi.)	0.0075 per km² (0.019 per sq. mi.)